

Kane County

Local Planning Summary

Prepared for the:
**Dixie, Fishlake & Manti-La Sal National Forests
Forest Plan Revision
Social and Economic Assessment**



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KANE COUNTY, GENERAL PLAN, 1998
KANE COUNTY, ZONING & SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE, 1998
FIVE COUNTY AOG, KANE COUNTY FACT SHEET, 1999

<p>Summary & Key Issues</p>	<p>Natural Resources are considered the economic base of the County, and they would like to retain access to those resources. A substantial amount of lands in the higher elevation forest lands have been developed for recreation homes and cabins, and many are being used year-round. Unincorporated land uses are required to retain the qualities of a rural setting, and the County will not provide municipal-level services. The County has created three zoning designations in order to differentiate between “forest/recreation”, “multiple use range”, and “agriculture/residential” uses. “The Kane County Commission intends to become a proactive partner in all public lands planning processes which impact the County land base”.</p>
<p>Historical Abstract</p>	<p>The Kane County General Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and Subdivision Ordinance was adopted in 1998. The intent of the Plan is to “facilitate a land use pattern which allows private unincorporated land owners to make reasonable use of their lands with the constraints presented by the land itself, as well as traditional uses, customs, culture, and available public services”.</p>
<p>Economic Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Nearly equidistant from Bryce, Zion and Grand Canyon National Parks, Kanab began building motels and restaurants in the 1920’s and 1930’s to serve its growing tourist trade”, (AOG,1). • The Utah / Arizona Action Team is an committee committed to completing Strategic Economic Development and Industrial Park Plans to use in the economic development process, (AOG,2). • Natural Resources are considered the economic base of the County, (p.48).
<p>Environmental Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Protection of watersheds is critical to the continued development of the County”, (p.35). • Goal: Appoint a County Resource Development Committee, (p.36).

Social & Cultural Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Unincorporated land uses will ... retain the qualities of a rural, open setting with uses not typically found in a town or city”, (p.10). • “...the County will recognize that humans have been an integral part of natural systems in the Region for over 10,000 years, and must continue to play an active role in the functioning of natural systems”, (p.10).
Forest-Specific Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A substantial amount of lands in the higher elevation forest lands have been developed for recreation homes and cabins, and many are being used year-round”, (p.9&19). • The County has created three zoning designations in order to differentiate between “forest/recreation”, “multiple use range”, and “agriculture/residential” uses, (p.25).
Public Lands Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The Kane County Commission intends to become a proactive partner in all public lands planning processes which impact the County land base”, (p.9). • Almost 96% of the land base is in Federal or State ownership, (p.18). • “Historically, federal and state trust lands management has taken place with little regard to Kane County land use plans”, (p.56). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Goal: “Work closely with federal land managers in the preparation of federal Resource Management Plans”, (p.60). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ County has a County Resource Development Committee, (p.70).

KANE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN

Summary & Key Issues

The Economic Development Strategic Plan is based on recommendations of the Kane County Economic Development Working Team. The economy of Kane has traditionally been based on the abundant natural resources found in the County. There are natural resources (coal, water, and aggregate) in the County, but access to them is greatly limited by public lands policies. Recreation is considered an opportunity, but leads to a cyclical economy.

Historical Abstract

The Economic Development Strategic Plan includes recommendations of the Kane County Economic Development Working Team. The Team consists of County residents, and they followed a SWOT (strength, weakness, opportunity, threat) approach. The analysis was converted into tactical plans in order to enable tracking and follow-up.

Economic Values

- The economy of Kane has traditionally been based on the abundant natural resources found in the County, (p.3).
 - Most of these resources are found on lands administered by federal agencies, and “access to these resources has been reduced at an ever-increasing rate since the 1970s”.
- The County is encouraging local ownership of tourism businesses, (p.3).
- Recreation is considered an opportunity [the Plan concentrates on the Lake Powell areas], (p.15).

Social & Cultural Values

- “Quality of life is an asset. People live [there] because they want to be there”, (p.17).

Public Lands Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument has effectively stopped coal mining in eastern Kane County”, (p.3). • “Natural resource base is an asset. Ownership of the resource base is a weakness”, (p.17).
Regional Demographic Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County population grew by >10% at a time when the higher-paying jobs were being lost [1990-1994], (p.37). • The Kane economy is highly cyclical with summer providing the most opportunities [because of tourism], (p.10).
<p><i>KANE COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT DRAFT WATER RESOURCES MASTER PLAN, 1997</i></p>	
Summary & Key Issues	<p>The Kane County Water Conservancy District’s Plan states that agriculture has been, and continues to be, limited by the availability of affordable irrigation water. The demands on municipal and industrial water supplies in Kane County are increasing and will continue to do so into the next century, and existing supplies will be overextended. Several studies have determined that: 1) there is no indication that current groundwater withdrawals have had any significant effect on the amount of groundwater in storage, and 2) groundwater discharge and recharge are approximately in balance basin-wide over the long term.</p>
Historical Abstract	<p>The purpose of the Plan is to provide the information necessary for the District and other water users within the County to assess water-related needs and prioritize potential water development projects within the County.</p>

Economic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture has been and continues to be limited by the availability of affordable irrigation water, (p.S-1). • Economic development in the County has been hampered by the lack of transportation facilities, (p.2-2). • Kanab was used for the filming of many western movies, and remains the focus of the tourist industry in the County, (p.2-2). • “Additional drinking water source capacities will be needed for most of the communities in Kane County due to population growth”, (p.7-1).
Environmental Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the surface streamflow is made-up of melting snow in the months of March, April, and May, (p.S-3). • There are three principal aquifers in western Kane County. Most recharge of the principal aquifers takes place over the outcrop areas, (p.S-4). • “Several studies have determined that: 1) there is no indication that current groundwater withdrawals have had any significant effect on the amount of groundwater in storage, and 2) groundwater discharge and recharge are approximately in balance basin-wide over the long term”, (p.S-6). • Most County surface waters are suitable for irrigation and stockwatering purposes. Municipal and industrial use would require treatment, (p.3-13).
Public Lands Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County is nearly 98% owned and managed publicly, (p.S-2).
Regional Demographic Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The demands on municipal and industrial water supplies in Kane County are increasing and will continue to do so into the next century”, (p.S-12). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water demands will increase and in some communities the existing supplies will be overextended. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural water supplies are likely to be converted to municipal use, thus decreasing the amount of agricultural water use.

